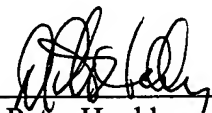


REMARKS

The claims have been amended for clarification purposes, namely, to clarify in claim 4 that the at least one luminescent substance displays a phenomenon selected from the provided Markush Group. In addition, claim 18 has been amended to depend from claim 15 rather than claim 1. Lastly, claim 28 has been added to depend from claim 15 and is based on current claim 18, but recites that the functional groups "are coupled" to at least one biomolecule. Support for the amendments to claims 4 and 18 may be found in the specification and original claims (amended sheets). Prosecution on the merits hereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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